

# As Gracious As

for soprano and piano

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Vanessa McClintock

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## Notes

Many years ago I made a surprise visit to the church congregation to which my then future fiancé belonged. We had met in a choral rehearsal setting, so I knew she was a vocalist, but I had no idea what a beautiful voice she had until she sang a solo in that church meeting.

She sang with a pure tone and with grace, and part of the lyrics were "I know my Father lives." Those words became the steppingstone into this song.

The music of that day I forgot, but those words and the manner in which she rendered them struck a very deep chord within me and which shortly thereafter became this song for soprano and piano.

I composed this for her a few months before we were married in 1980.



# As Gracious As

Text: Vanessa McClintock

Music: Vanessa McClintock

$\text{♩} = 76-80, \text{rubato}$

Soprano

Piano *pp*

4 *rit.* *mp* My

8  $\text{♩} = 72-76$  Fa - ther sure - ly lives; I speak to Him in prayer. He tells me that He hears, He

11 tells me that He cares; I hear His voice so sweet and clear. \_\_\_\_\_ I

14 *mf* *poco piu mosso* *mf*

o - pen up my heart and give all that I can, He speaks to me in side, to my heart, and He

17 *rit.* *lunga* *mf* *a tempo, steadily*

tells me of His plan. From heav'n will come His Word, de - scend - ing like a dove, as

20 *f* *poco piu mosso*

grac - ious as a swan, the Spir - it gent - ly moves to fill my a - wait - ing breast, and

23 *maestoso*

gives the gift of light and truth. To

25 *poco animato* *risoluto*

feel my God's burn - ing strength, I'll serve my God with

28 *rit.* *mp*  $\text{♩} = 72-76$  *with innocence*

tire - less grace. — I know my Fa - ther lives; I speak to Him in prayer. He's

31 *poco rall.*

al - ways there to give, to soothe a - way my fears, and tell me how I can

34 *a tempo ba poco rubato* *p* *mf* *rit.*

fol - low Je - sus with my heart \_\_\_\_\_ and share

37 *p* *mf poco animato* *rallentando*

with my Love.

*p* *mp*

3 3 3

Detailed description: This system contains measures 37, 38, and 39. The vocal line is in treble clef. Measure 37 has two eighth notes 'with' and 'my', followed by a half note 'Love.' which is slurred into measure 38. The piano accompaniment is in grand staff. The right hand has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 37, followed by eighth and sixteenth notes. The left hand has a triplet of eighth notes in measure 37, followed by eighth and sixteenth notes. A crescendo hairpin spans from measure 38 to the final chord in measure 39.

40 *Meno* *piu meno*

*p*

Detailed description: This system contains measures 40, 41, 42, and 43. The vocal line is silent, represented by whole rests. The piano accompaniment is in grand staff. The right hand plays a series of chords: a triad in measure 40, a dyad in measure 41, a triad in measure 42, and a dyad in measure 43. The left hand plays sustained notes: a dyad in measure 40, a triad in measure 41, a dyad in measure 42, and a triad in measure 43. A piano hairpin (*p*) is placed above the right hand in measure 42. The system ends with a double bar line.